

## Kelley E. Atkinson



### Resident Assistant

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After an amazing summer as a research associate in the 2003 NASA Ames Astrobiology Academy, I am looking forward to returning as staff for another great summer! I will graduate in May 2004 with my BS in Aerospace Engineering from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach, FL. This fall I will be starting my MS in Aeronautics and Astronautics at Stanford University. I can't wait to be out in California more permanently, I fell in love with the area during my academy experience! During my summer as a research associate I worked with Dr. Peter Pilewskie in the Earth Sciences Division's Atmospheric Physics Branch on a project entitled "Improved Airborne Operation of the NASA Ames Solar Spectral Flux Radiometer". For this project I designed an automatic leveling device using an inertial control system that keeps a radiation sensor level in the NASA ER-2 aircraft while the aircraft pitches and rolls during flight. I developed a conceptual design for the device, contacted vendors to obtain information on components and built a mock-up of the preliminary design. This was my first research and design experience and definitely reinforced my interest in going to graduate school to continue aerospace research.

I have stayed busy during my time as an undergraduate with a variety of activities. I have participated in two internships with the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority Engineering Department at Dulles International Airport where I worked as an engineering technician on a variety of CADD projects. I am also in the process of earning my private pilot's license and am should have it complete by the time of this summer's Academy. I have been a member of Girl Scouts for over 15 years and received my Gold Award as a senior Girl Scout. I also had the opportunity to participate in three Girl Scout Wider Opportunities that brought together girls from around the nation sharing a similar interest. These events were: ARROWplains to AEROplanes '95 in Oklahoma City, OK,

Quantum Leap '97 in Toledo, OH, and Exploring the Night's Candles '98 in Southern California. I also enjoy the outdoors, water and snow skiing, jogging and traveling.

I am looking forward to meeting you all this summer. We are going to have a great time!

